



MEDIA RELEASE

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TOP ACCOMMODATION HOTELS HONOURED AT INDUSTRY NIGHT OF NIGHTS

The State's multi-billion dollar tourism accommodation sector was celebrated last night at a gala awards ceremony at Sydney's Star Event Centre, with hotels including The Darling, Fairmont and The Langham amongst the big winners.

The 2019 Tourism Accommodation Australia NSW Awards for Excellence broke records with more than 300 nominations received across 32 categories.

An audience of 750 industry and political leaders including NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres, Shadow Federal Tourism Minister Senator Don Farrell, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Penny Sharpe, Sydney Deputy Lord Mayor Linda Scott and AHA National President Scott Leach attended the event.

TAA NSW Chair Antony Page told the audience it was a new era for the state's peak accommodation body, with a new CEO, new multi-million dollar offices, a new chair and a new board.

"Our priorities are simple - to continue to be the leading organisation representing the accommodation sector in NSW," he said.

"To represent our members at all levels of Government. To continue to provide the best in legal and industrial relations advice and membership services. To continue working to secure cheaper energy prices for our members through a ground-breaking power purchase agreement and to continue to keep the focus on the issues of unregulated accommodation and the skills and labour shortage affecting our industry. That is our commitment to you.

"I congratulate all finalists and winners for truly setting the standard for our industry."

Many of the state's best known hotels took out awards at the event.

The Darling in Sydney won *Deluxe Hotel of the Year*, with the **Park Hyatt Sydney** achieving highly commended.

Rydges World Square in Sydney was named *Metropolitan Superior Hotel of the Year*, while *Regional Superior Hotel of the Year* went to **Fairmont Resort & Spa Blue Mountains, MGallery by Sofitel**. **The Langham Sydney** won three awards including *Outstanding Achievement in Training*.

Holiday Inn Sydney Airport won *Mid-Range Hotel of the Year*, while the property's **Sasha McAlister** was highly commended for *Marketing Talent of the Year*.

Redeveloped/Refurbished Hotel of the Year went to **Novotel Sydney International Airport**.

Apartment/Suite Hotel of the Year went to **Fraser Suites Sydney**.

Restaurant of the Year (Deluxe Hotels) was awarded to **Altitude Restaurant** at **Shangri-La Hotel** in Sydney, while *Restaurant of the Year (Mid-Range Superior)* went to **Platform 818** at **Mecure Sydney**.

TAA NSW and National CEO Michael Johnson said the Awards for Excellence was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and showcase the exceptional standard of the NSW accommodation industry.

“The combined efforts of the tourism and accommodation sectors means NSW is now the leader in both international and domestic visitation,” he said.

“The fact we, as a state, can provide exemplary accommodation options such as those represented at the Awards for Excellence, means we are setting the standard for Australian tourism.

“I congratulate all our winners for their hard work and tireless commitment to excellence.”

For a full list of TAA NSW Award winners visit: www.taanswawards.com.au

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